4-18-91

Inside Today:

Sanitary insanity...
coping with the wrath of the bathroom gods
See page 2

Hope for the homeless...
See page 6

Track team makes "most wanted" list
See page 8

Thursday
April 18, 1991

VALLEY STAR

Van Nuys, California | Serving Valley College for 42 years | Vol.42, No.23

Brown deems health joint effort

By CHRISTOPHER D. SHARPE
View Editor

"We need to create a society where there's enough room for everyone and where citizens take some control over their own society," former California governor Jerry Brown said to a moderate crowd Tuesday at the second annual Health Fair Expo held at Valley College.

Brown, speaking on health and environmental issues, opened his presentation by saying, "Health has to be a very inclusive term." Brown, who is running for the senate, asserted we are not just individuals, the mythology, the concept that we are mostly individuals is at the heart of the most significant disease we are suffering from.

"That's the beginning of the problem," Brown said. "The separation, that [idea that] each is different, that we're different from homeless people down the street, or that we're different from the environment. It's that separation," continued Brown, "that makes us conquer the environment. It's us or the environment. Separation of mind and body. It's the evolution of the individual, surviving."

According to Brown, this is wrong. The individual depends on other individuals, on other forms of life. It's the individual in the family, community, nation, world, and in the biosphere, all co-evolving together. "When we understand that," said Brown, "we understand that we're not up against but we're together with."

"Having that sense of harmony and balance," continued Brown, "is what health is all about. That's what healing is all about."

Brown asserted that, as a society, we are spending more on health than any other society in the world. We're spending almost 12 percent ($600 billion) of our Gross National Product (GNP) and it's growing fast."

A significant part of this money is spent on the last part of our lives. "That's one of the paradoxes, that we're spending a tremendous amount on the last few months of our existence," continued Brown.

"As we speak, literally millions and millions of dollars are being spent in life-sustaining technologies for people whose lives have just about ended. At the same time, we have children being born who aren't being given any prenatal care, whose mothers haven't had the opportunity to go to a wealthy baby clinic or to have the best consultation and support. (They live) in areas where the environment, both socially and psychologically, is not to enhance the life of their children."

We're not mobilizing our resources in the way we have to, claimed Brown. We can spend $50 billion on a war to make sure we have gas for our cars, but we can't find the money to create alternative energy so we don't need that oil in the first place. "That's the insanity of where we are."

"Why the hell does a country that can send a tomahawk missile down an air conditioning vent to kill people, can't even feed people, can't even find a shelter for homeless people, can't educate people, can't take care of our senior citizens, can't even get the garbage out of the air? Why can't we?" lambasted Brown, "because we don't want to."

"Healthy bodies and healthy minds are created by a healthy society," continued Brown. "I don't think it's healthy to wave a bunch of flags after you kill 100,000 people. I think that's sick."

Brown went on to say he could not get exicted over our health when there are tens of thousand of people who are sick and we're not doing a damn thing about it. "That's what I care about, that's what you ought to care about."

In a statement that hit closer to home, Brown called for the resignation of Darryl Gates. "Here in LA County," said Brown, "you still have a police force where the aberration is not their beating someone over the head but that somebody had videotaped it. That's the aberration.

But," added Brown, "you have to realize they came out of an environment of separation." That separation, according to Brown, is that of one community from another and also from the police and the people they are policing. "That couldn't

see BROWN pg. 3

Brown expresses concern for education problems

By SUSAN M. TYRRELL
Editor in Chief

Jerry Brown expressed concern after his speech Tuesday for the problems California schools are facing. "We have to stir up the debate," he said.

"We need to protect our teachers, not lay them off," Brown said. "We need to restore Prop. 98, also." (The proposition, which provides money to K-14 schools in California, and which was recently suspended by Gov. Pete Wilson.)

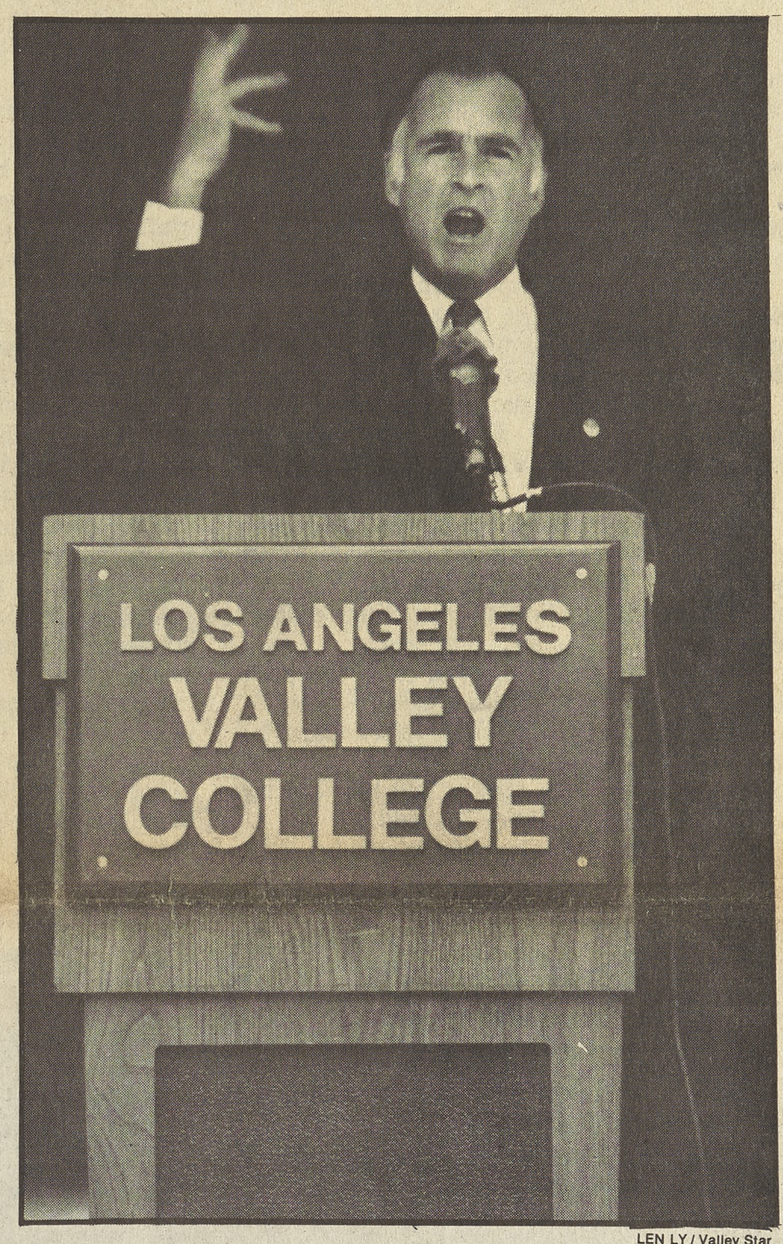
In his speech, Brown spoke angrily about prisons being given financial priority over education. That brings danger and is part of the reason our schools are in trouble, he said.

"We have to start investing in our schools," he said.

Brown's stance on education was met with approval by LAVC students.

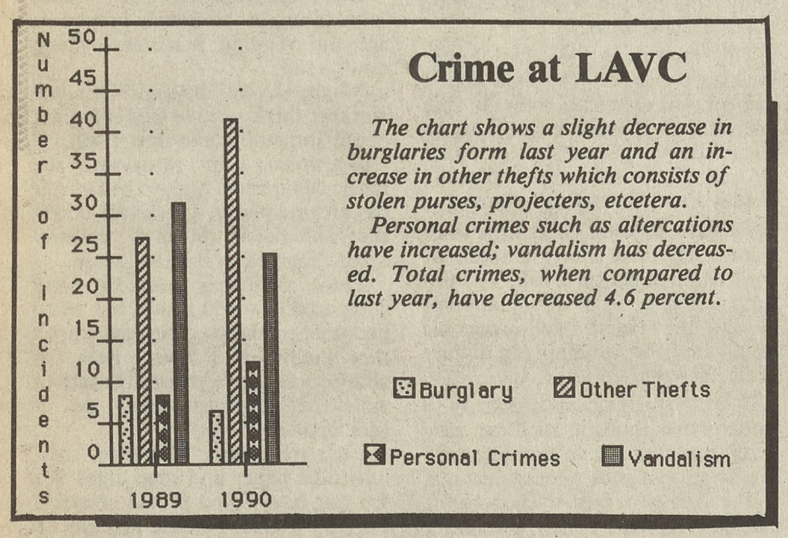
"He obviously agrees that we definitely need more emphasis on education," said LAVC student Barbara Asa-Dorian. "I feel he understands that the ills of society need to be addressed through education. If we don't start teaching self-esteem, then we'll continue to have the problems we do with the drug culture and a non-voting public--ad naseum."

Student Lisa Martinez was optimistic about Brown's opinions on education. "I hope throughout his [senatorial] campaign he'll stick with [what he said] and be tough with the affluent forces and not turn into a jellyfish once he's elected."



LEN LY / Valley Star

BEHOLD — Former Governor Jerry Brown speaks to Valley students about health care concerns in our society today.



Crime rates show slight decrease

By SUSAN M. TYRRELL
Editor in Chief

Grand theft auto and burglaries and thefts from parked cars have been the greatest contributors to the crime rate at Los Angeles Valley College in the last two years, according to the campus police.

Statistics also show a slight reduction of campus crime from 1989 to 1990 and one of the lowest crimes rates of any of the nine colleges in the Los Angeles Community College District.

"When crime increases, we dictate our deployment accordingly," said LAVC officer Frank Dallas.

He said part of the reason for the reduction of crime is a concerted effort by campus police to try to foresee problems, visibly patrol the campus and respond quickly to reports.

In 1989, there were 79 vehicle-related crimes on campus; that figure dropped to 39 in 1990.

The reason for the decline, Dallas said, was the officers discovered high school students stole cars to take a joyrides. Campus police "cracked down" on the problem.

"Our whole operation is to reduce crime," Dallas said.

There have been no homicides, rapes or other serious crimes at LAVC in the 10 years Dallas has been here.

Officers place more importance on the administrative nature of crimes than the criminal, Dallas said. When a crime is committed on campus by a student, legal action is rare. Instead, a student discipline form is completed on the student.

The form, distributed by the LACCD Board of Trustee's, is given to Dean Hisayasu, dean of student services, to wage action against the student.

The charges include disruption of classes, alcohol and drug (use, possession, distribution), cheating and possession of lethal weapons.

A penalty is recommended, which may be as minor as a reprimand or as serious as expulsion. Students are

see CRIME, pg. 3

Faculty runs up $15,000 bill for overdue books

By MARION JIMENEZ
Staff Writer

At the start of the Spring '91 semester, the LAVC library estimated $15,000 for overdue books from LAVC employees alone.

According to Library Chairman David G. May, this figure represents about 60 percent of the school's annual book budget, which is meant for buying new books.

May said approximately 150 employees, 120 of them faculty members, have roughly 800 overdue books to their name. About 10 of those faculty each have over 30 books checked out, some since the early 1970s.

May said, "I would consider that an abuse of their library privileges."

On Feb. 28, 1991, the evaluation was brought to the attention of the Academic Senate by May, who was then advised to encourage faculty to clear their records.

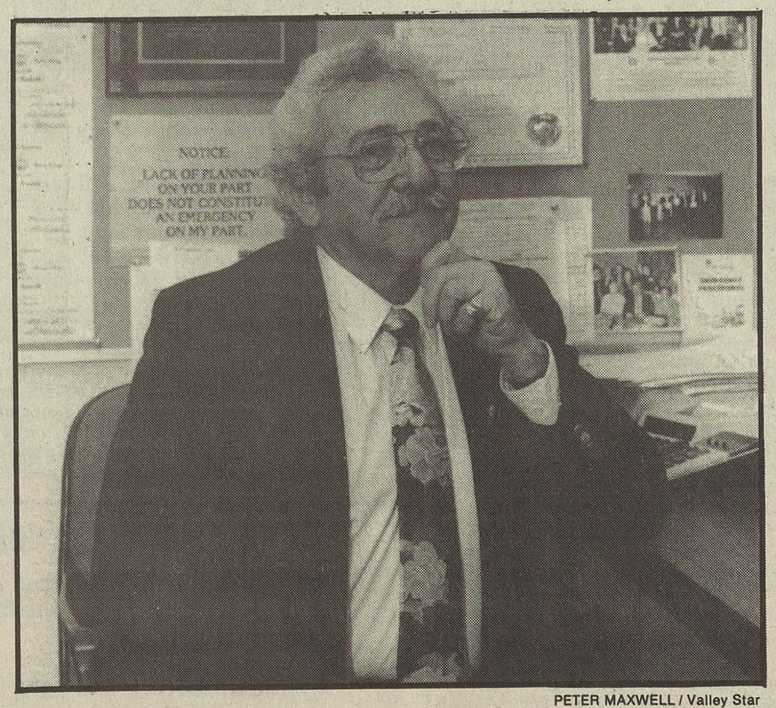
As has been done every two years, letters were sent to faculty, two last fall and two this semester, but many were ignored, May said. Those letters were sent to department chairs, May said, in hope of better results.

Since the Academic Senate meeting, about 200 books were returned or renewed. May said he will probably return to the Senate after an evaluation in May if the remaining faculty does not do something to rectify the situation.

In 1975, the annual book budget was $50,000 and the average book cost $12-$14. May said lost books were not such a problem then.

Today the annual book budget is only $26,000 and the average book costs $40. Consequently, the budget

see LIBRARY pg. 3



PETER MAXWELL / Valley Star

READY FOR RELAXING — George Kopoulos, dean of community resources, will retire in June, ending his 34-year-long involvement with education. A replacement has not yet been chosen.

Profile:

Dean Kopoulos to retire from LAVC

By JENNIFER CASE
News Editor

"Chinese proverb: Tell me, and I will forget. Show me and I may remember; but involve me and I will understand."

This is an excerpt that George Kopoulos, LAVC dean of community resources, cut out of a Juvenile Justice newsletter. The quote, which sits on his desktop, seems to sum up his entire existence. Kopoulos has always been involved.

Kopoulos has been active in everything from bagging groceries to serving in the Korean War.

"I've always been involved," he said. "I love sports and I played them until I couldn't run anymore."

Now, after 34 years of involvement with education, Kopoulos is planning to retire after this semester.

"I've already been taking things off my walls and packing up," he said as he picked up a large wooden plaque given to him by the United Cerebral Palsy Association.

He received this award in 1973 for his meritorious services to the disabled students on campus.

Incidentally, the next person to receive the award was Mayor Tom Bradley.

Kopoulos started and was in charge of the handicapped program for 12 years at Valley. It took hard work, he said, but eventually the program evolved from 20 to 600 students.

"I'm proud to say it became one of the most model programs in the state," he said.

see GEORGE pg. 3

STAR EDITORIAL

Proposition 98:

Last chance to save our schools

Education in the state of California is under attack *again*. With the budget decreasing annually, the outlook for the quality of education is grim.

The other funds the schools receive just aren't enough to keep the budget healthy. Consequently, additional cuts in classes and staff occur.

Now, the "education" governor has decided to hit us when we're down. Governor Pete Wilson has suspended the voter-mandated Proposition 98 that gives schools approximately 40 percent of the total state budget.

Educators, staff and students count on that money as a main source of funding. Wilson chose poorly.

Suspending the proposition isn't the only solution to balance the budget. Wealthy taxpayers and big corporations are given big tax breaks that cost the state billons each year.

In addition, taxing the investment income of insurance companies alone would generate more than a billion dollars a year. And, there are other solutions.

These are desperate times. Declining state revenues this year meant an unexpected mid-year cut of $500 million that left K-14 administators and officials scrambling to make ends meet.

Community colleges alone took the additional brunt of a $52 million cut.

By law, the state is supposed to reimburse the community colleges for the money it borrowed to balance this year's budget, but the state has not lived up to its part of the deal.

Suspending the proposition (when community colleges are counting on it the most), may solve Wilson's state budget crisis, however it will create new and more serious problems on the whole.

Class sections, which were already cut to the bone from the latest budget crisis, will not be able to take another cut without wiping out whole classes from the schedule.

Once a class is cut, the chances of getting it back are slim.

Some districts are already devising plans to eliminate costly vocational education programs and cut backs on basic skills courses.

Moreover, gardening staff, maintenance staff and other classified staff have already been cut to the core as well. There is nothing left to cut.

Education is the key to the future. Suspending Prop. 98 will force community to forage for money on their own while spending less time on improving the quality of education.

Governor Wilson needs to get his priorities straight. Reducing the deficit is a valid goal; cutting in education is not.

Education isn't responsible for the state's financial problems, nor should the schools be used as a bank to solve the budget battle.

Cutting education funds is a fast and easy solution, but not if it means closing the door on the students.

The *Star* asks the students to write to their legislators as a last hope to save Prop. 98.

The legislature must still approve Wilson's suspention of Prop. 98, therefor there is hope. This could be *our* last chance to save the schools.

If you do not want to have our educational system depleted, write to our legislators. A concentrated amount of letters to them from students, can make a difference.
We have provided a short list for your use.

State Senators

Robbins, Alan (D-20)
6150 Van Nuys Blvd., #400
Van Nuys, CA 91401
(818) 901-555
FAX: (818) 901-5562

Roberti, Alan (D-20)
6150 Van Nuys Blvd., #400
Van Nuys, CA 91401

Rosenthal, Herchel (D-22)
1950 Sawtelle Blvd., #210
Los Angeles, CA 90025
(213) 479-5588
FAX: (213) 477-8172

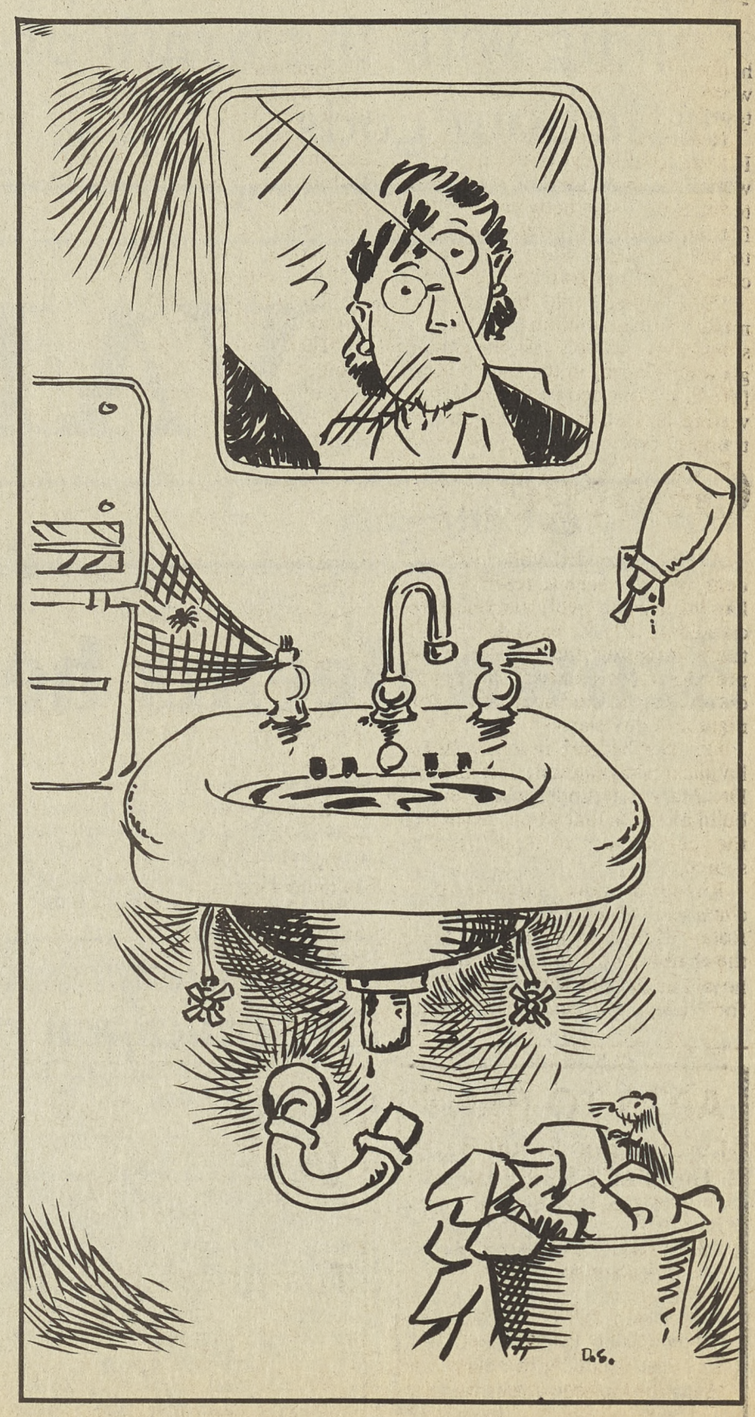
State Assembly

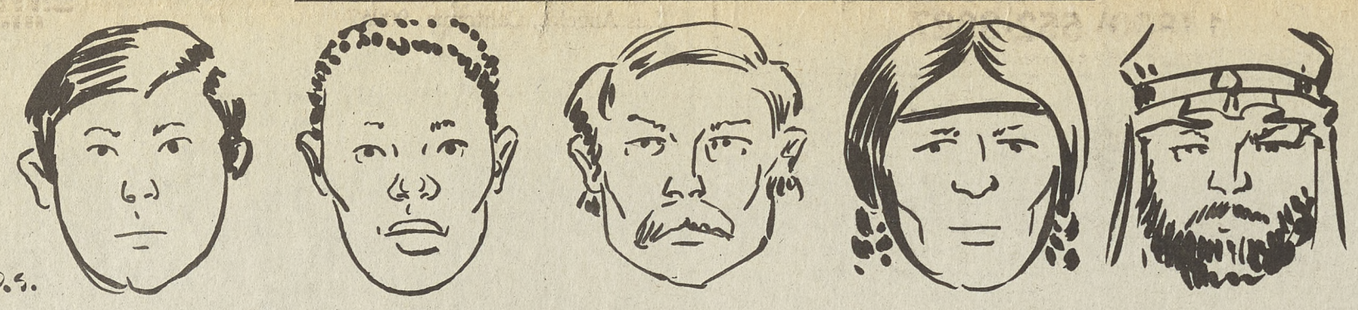
Katz, Richard (D-39)
9140 Van Nuys Blvs., #109
Panorama City, CA 91402
(818) 894-3671
FAX: (818) 885-3960

Hayden, Tom (D-44)
227 Broadway, #300
Santa Monica, CA 90401
(213) 393-2717
FAX: (213) 393-6590

Bane, Tom (D-40)
5430 Van Nuys Blvd., #205
Van Nuys, CA 91401
(818) 986-8090
FAX: (818) 986-4913

Watson, Diane E. (D-28)
4401 Crenshaw Blvd., #300
Los Angeles, CA 90043
FAX: (213) 295-0910





Campus racism: Reopening social wounds

By JUAN MORILLO
Staff Writer

The Rodney King incident has opened social wounds in our society. Those wounds many of us would like to believe dissapeared with the civil rights movement of the '60s and with the technological sophistication of our so called "american culture."

The reality is these social conflicts, racism being one, did not dissapear but instead were hidden in the streams of society. Racism, supposedly, was not a major problem in this nation any longer, but rather an isolated one.

An "aberration," as Los Angeles Chief of Police Daryl Gates chose to call it.

The educatinal system and in particular many schools also have been involved racist practices in all stages of the structure.

From faculty hiring practices to student rights to the revision of academic curriculums.

To be critical, specifically, of racial incidents at our beloved Los Angeles Valley College campus. I could start by enumerating incidents (which many times have gone unreported), have ocurred during my years as a student at this institution. By *racial incidents* I'm being inclusive of discriminatory practices.

A California court, in 1985 ruled any person in the state had the right to pursue higher education with no consideration to their legal migratory status in the United States.

Meaning, if I crossed the border last night and I decided to come to Valley College I should be allowed to do so.

This is not the case, what was happening for a number of years is the clerks in the admission office (not all of them) always demand a green card be presented even before they gave the student a chance to approach them with a their problem.

Their questioning was based on wether or not the student fullfilled the "american look."

It's possible either the skin color, heavy accent or feathers on someone's head are grounds to question anybody, but I didn't think white Canadians or Western Europeans were subject to this treatment.

Now, considering the student population of Chicano or Latino decent at LAVC reaches over 25 percent, the faculty of this same origin barely reaches 2 percent.

This gives the idea there are no qualified Chicanos or Latinos to teach in this campus subsequently creating a lack of role models to student of these origins.

To add more fuel to the fire, in the Spring of 1990, a position opened up in the Chicano Studies department but, the administration filled it with a non-chicano instructor who had no previous academic background in the related field.

The administration also had overlooked the seniority list of available instructors. In doing so, they had denied the opportunity to qualified Chicano instructors to fill the position.

The recent incident of a counselor of Afro American decent who had previously worked as a professor and whose temporary position opened up for permanent status: the district was interviewing different candidates, but this councelor had not been notified of the ongoing process.

When someone else found out and complained of the obvious injustice, this councelor was called in only two hours before her scheduled interview.

I also recall when two concerned students approached the athletic director in the Spring of 1987 and inquired about the possibility of establishing a soccer team. He told them an impediment to the request was the fact most soccer players have a hard time keeping up with 12 units and maintaining a C average at the same time.

The previous statement may not appear too harmful, but I want you to consider about 98 percent of the players who enroll in the soccer classes are Latin Americans, black African, and Middle Easterners. So now make your conclusions about his statement.

Racist and discriminatory attitudes are unfortunately rooted in ignorance perpetuated by our public schools. It's people like Gates and some school administrators whose atitudes contribute to the preservation of this negative behavior.

Gates has now been put on trial by the community and the same should be done to those irresponsible school officials.

Local institutions and officials must gain back the confidence of the population. Gates should resign, as well as the faulty school administrators, after all, they are only a bunch of jerks.

Who says they're "rest" rooms

By SUSAN M. TYRRELL
Editor in Chief

All I wanted to do was wash my hands. It was right after a greasy lunch and I wanted to avoid those disgusting little translucent grease spots on everything I handled for the rest of the day.

A simple task, I assumed. Now I know why people say what they do about assumptions.

The beginning of my hand-washing perils occurred right after I had played musical stalls in the restroom in a futile attempt to be dignified and find some toilet paper on one of the rolls which proudly display the "Never Out" signs.

I guess I shouldn't say futile since a lone stall had a tiny amount of hard white paper on a roll. The unfortunate soul who would attempt to use the facility following me would find their attempts in dignity futile, however.

Back to washing my hands. Who would have thought such an easy thing could prove so complicated? The bathroom gods were against me.

The first two sinks I tried barely managed to drip. Finally I found a sink which always drips, I turned the tap and water actually came out.

Next I wanted soap. Cleanliness is important--though apparently not at LAVC. Every soap container was empty. I squeezed and squeezed, but the grease was destined to remain on my hands.

I washed as best I could with the cold water generously allotted to me. The next thought I had seemed logical; I wanted to dry my hands.

Oh, to be so fortunate! The paper towel machines were void of anything but an annoying squeak.

Utter frustration drove my wet hands and me out of the restroom. (Who put the "rest" in restroom, anyway?)

I don't understand it. Remaining sanitary in campus bathrooms is harder than getting an A in advanced calculus.

One more thing which is especially irritating in the female restrooms are the vending machines, which don't vend.

Maybe the Building and Grounds workers think no one will complain about something like this. I will.

If a woman is in a restroom in the music department and, to be tactful, has an emergency, I seriously doubt she will relish the trek halfway across campus to the bookstore.

These situations may be petty compared to world peace, but when people spend hours a day on campus they should, at the very least, be able to use the restrooms at school with the same ease they do at McDonalds.

I am well aware of budget cuts, but toilet paper and soap cuts? We are not in a Third World country. For pity's sake, I would actually be willing to pay for soap.

Of course, the easiest thing would be if someone would just fill those vending machines. That would bring in a little money to put back into the restrooms and it would be a heck of a lot more convenient for the female population at LAVC.

I will now depart from my soapbox. I think I am going to need a restroom and I want to allow myself time to get home.

Valley Star

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★ LETTERS ★ LETTERS ★ LETTERS ★ LETTERS ★ LETTERS ★

The Valley Star is happy to receive and, if possible, publish letters from its readers.

The Star reserves the right to condense all letters for space considerations. Submitted letters should be limited to 350 words. Letters are subject to editing if they are obscene, libelous, or make racial, ethnic or religious denigrations.

Letters should be signed and, if applicable, include student's major and ID number. Letters may be presented to the Valley Star office, Bungalow 25, by Monday for the following Thursday.

Brown...

(Continued from pg. 1)

happen is a society that was more whole, more healthy, and more together," he asserted.

Health, said Brown, is integration. It's understanding how the body works and how the body works in terms of the larger body politic. Most fundamentally, as citizens, our job is to act as citizens and to take some control over our own society.

"This state," said Brown, "has made a firm commitment to put prisions over schools as the fastest growing element in the state budget. [We must] put people first. Start investing in schools, in child-care, in training, and in enough jobs to get the community working. We need to create a society where there's enough room for everybody."

"It starts with you," added Brown. "You have to make that decision and feel you have the power. You can make a difference. You can restore health to our democratic process and restore health to our community." By doing this, Brown believes you can restore health to yourself.

"That's really what it's all about," stressed Brown, "taking care of yourself and understanding that yourself includes everyone else."

George...

(Continued from pg. 1)

After he attended Valley as a student, he came back to teach subjects like history and political science. He created E.O.P.S., extended opportunity programs and services, which provides tutoring and scholarships for disadvantaged students, and taught night and day classes.

He then became involved in the handicapped program, and in 1987, Dr. Mary Lee approached him to build a service that would reach into the community to seek funding sources.

Kopoulos now sits on three chambers of commerce and is a Rotary Club active member. While at the chamber of commerce meetings, he said he channels sources of funding for Valley. He has even recruited some fellow members to come back to college.

As an ex-official member of the Patriot Foundation, an organization devoted to raising money from outside sources for campus activities, Kopoulos has acquired eight Halo Awards given for meritorious service.

Now planning to retire, he said while he's not working on the house, he wants to teach illiterate people how to read.

Overall, Kopoulos described himself as multi-faceted.

"I'm not afraid to do anything, try anything, or to take chances," he said.

"I know my limitations, yet I'm not afraid to extend myself."

LEN LY / Valley Star

STUDYING HARD — Ofra Inbar and Ramin Behjalnia take a break from their studies and relax on the couch in the Administration Building.

Crime...

(Continued from pg. 1)

able to respond to the charges, either in writing or orally, to Hisayasu.

"On campus, we pay a lot of attention to the wants, needs and desires of the students," Dallas said. One step the campus police has taken is to have one specific person deal with all sex-related crimes.

The only reported sex-related crime at LAVC in the last two years was a verbal sexual harassment report made by one student about another student. The report was turned over to administration in December 1990 for ajudication.

LAVC has one of the lowest crime rates in the district. The last available statistics (November 1990) show LAVC with the lowest crime rate in the district. However, Dallas said the rates vary monthly. "We're certainly in the lower half, though," he said.

Library...

(Continued from pg. 1)

has been cut in half and the costs have tripled, May said.

May added that students who owe money for overdue books get a hold placed on their record. This means they can not register, get their grades or their transcripts until all fines have been paid.

Since faculty has the privilege of checking books out for an entire semester, it makes it harder to keep track of missing books, he said.

"I'm in the same position," said May, who has a couple of overdue books out himself.

Books are considered lost when they are out two years. The fine is the price of the book plus a five dollar replacement fee, which covers the cost of reordering, re-cataloging and supplying new book covers, according to May.

A reduced library staff makes it even more difficult to remind people to return their overdue books. Although records are kept on computer, May said it is still very time consuming to send letters to 800 people.

"By keeping books out so long, [faculty members] are denying access of information to others," he said.

News Notes

Nystrom Grant Award

The 1990 receipient of the Richard Nystrom Award is Dennis Reed. Professor Reed will use the grant support his research in preparation of an exhibition at the Hunington Library and Gallery.

Opportunities in Hollywood

A teach-in seminar sponsored by ASU on the controversy raised by ProfessorTimmons will be held April 24 in Monarch Hall from 6-10 p.m.

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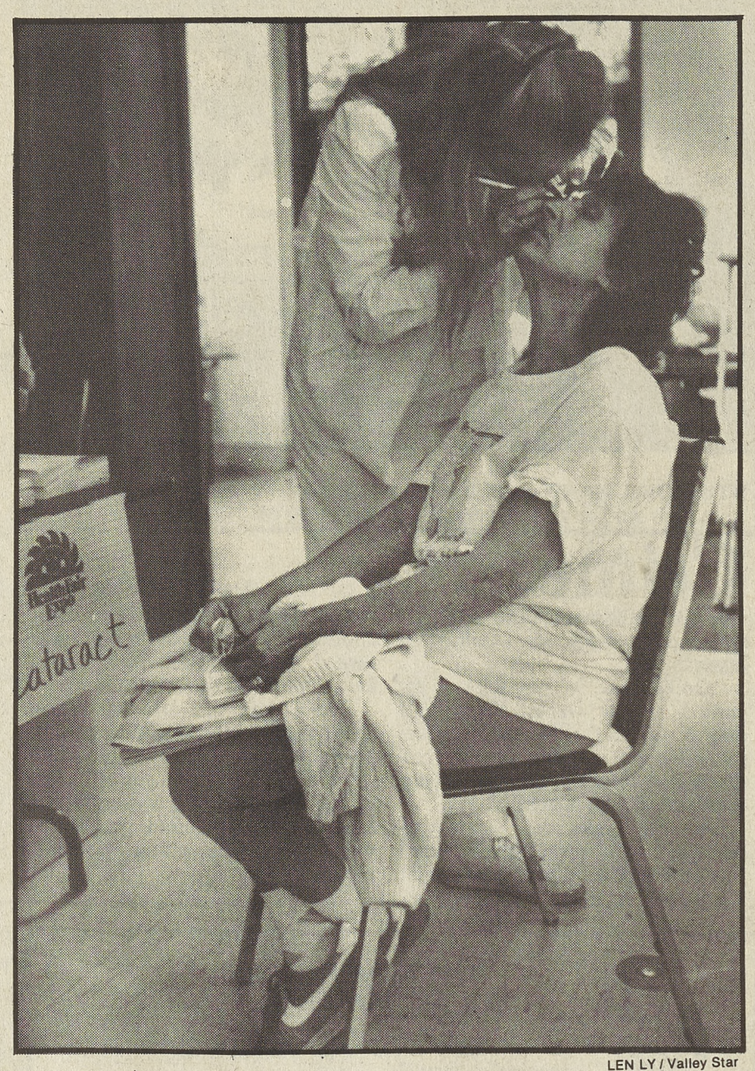
Health Expo brings food, fun and facts



LEN LY / Valley Star

THE EYES HAVE IT — Student nurse Marlena Whitlow examines Margaret Kartalian for cataracts, an eye disease.

LEN LY / Valley Star

LIMITED ACCESS — In a question to former Governor Brown, Cheryl Mayfield raised the issue of access of wheelchairs to bungalows. Translating for her is Rebecca Shivers.

LEN LY / Valley Star

BON APPETIT — Leda Le and Chau Pham cook egg rolls for the Vietnamese Club sale at the front of Monarch Square on Tuesday. The club sold over 600 eggrolls during their sale.

Student health insurance negotiations underway

By LISA TRINKA
Staff Writer

Low-cost health insurance from Kaiser Permanente Medical Groupmay become available to students by the summer of 1991, if negotitations by Los Angeles Valley College representatives are successful.

Alaine Jelsvik, Associated Student Union president, sparked the idea of low cost health insurance for students. Jelsvik said the idea would have never gotten off the ground, though, were it not for the eagerness of Dr. Glenn Hisayasu, dean of student services.

Hisayasu, along with the combined efforts of Lou Albert, director of student health services; Dr. Lester Schneider, GAIN Director; Jelsvik and the Executive Council of the ASU, is negotiating with Kaiser for an affordable health plan, or "Transition Plan," for LAVC students.

LAVC currently offers health insurance plans but does not offer much of a break for students in the low income bracket. "It can get expensive," Jelsvik said.

A single subscriber to Transition Plan could pay as little as $9.53 per month, and a family could pay as little as $38.18. No family would pay more than $66.82 per month in 1991. There are no deductibles and no medical review is required.

Unfortunately, this is only a two-year health plan, and there are only a certain number of slots available. Between 1991 and 1992, 500-700 eligible students will be nominated by the ASU for the program.

Restrictions include coming from a low income family, defined as earning $9,930 for a single person and no more than $27,000 for a four-member family. One also must be a full time student and be participating in the vocational/occupational or certificate program at LAVC.

Hisayasu said this is still a proposed plan, so applications will not be accepted until the commencement of the program.

Jelsvik hopes this program will open doors for future plans, such as a Student Services Center and Health Program.

An ASU election will be held in two weeks surveying how many students would be in favor of paying a fee of $3-10 each semester for health care. Jelsvik said a $7 mandatory fee for students each semester could pay for an on-campus full time nurse and a doctor by appointment.

Jelsvik and the ASU were patiently awaiting the outcome of proposition C, voted on earlier this week, in hope of obtaining funds for campus construction, including perhaps a building for their new innovative ideas. but the proposition failed.

Pro-choice/pro-life debate divides students

By MILES GRANDFIELD
Staff Writer

Abortion is an issue which often brings to mind scenes of violent protest, paddy wagons, the chanting of slogans, and shouting matches.

But in the warm sun and cool breeze of Monarch Square, Tuesday, relative order and civility were the rule as representatives of the Pro-Life and Pro-Choice movements engaged in a formal debate organized by members of the respective campus advocate clubs, Collegians for Life and the Pro Choice Energizers.

Indeed, due to a problem with the microphone during the opening statements of debaters Edward Tabash of the California Abortion Rights Action League, Susan Odom of Operation Rescue, and Greg Cunningham, founder of the Center of Bio-Ethical Reform, the sparse audience heard more static from the public address system than there seemed to be in the content of the speakers' remarks.

However the discussion became somewhat more heated as students were provided an open mic to pose questions to the panel.

There was a smattering of boos and cheers as familiar themes were aired by both factions.

Michael Brown asked, "How can you call it Pro-Choice? An aborted baby isn't given an opportunity to choose."

Kathy Artsis, a nursing student, asked if it were "morally and ethically correct to insist that a pregnant woman who has AIDS be forced to assume the responsibility of carrying a fetus that will in all probability develop AIDS some time after birth."

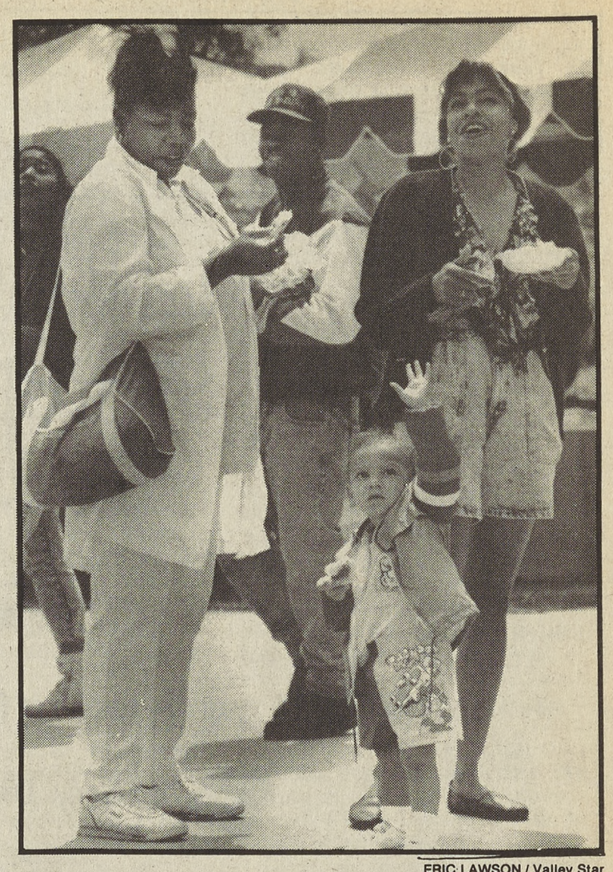
The debate came just two days after the airing of a CBS movie titled "Absolute Strangers", which depicted the true story of a man faced with an abortion decision when his pregnant wife goes into a coma.

The forum lasted almost two hours, and for the most part followed the tone set by moderator Mike Vivian, professor of sociology, in his introduction.

"Today in the United States there is perhaps no single social issue that so divides the American public," Vivian said.

"I am sure that many of you today have strong feelings about these questions and I ask that all of you, in the name of academic freedom, respect the right of the debaters to have their views openly aired here today. This is not going to be the Morton Downey, Jr Show."

HealthFair Expo



ERIC LAWSON / Valley Star

GENERATION GAP — Three generations of the Casey family wait for the abortion debate to begin. Grandmother Pat, left is pro choice while her daughter, Latriece, right, is pro life.

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The scholarship will be awarded at the Dean's Tea, 2pm, Wednesday, May 8, 1991.

Criteria for selecting a candidate:
[1] the student must be a sociology major
[2] has completed, or is completing, six or more units in sociology
[3] should have a minimum grade point average of 3.0

JOHN PHILLIPS / Valley Star

HOLD ME NOW? — Joseph (Adam S. Birstock) expresses concern to his girlfriend Susan (Nora Piibe) on how he imagines their failing relationship should actually be.

One Act:

Two and Twenty, a learned lesson

By FRAN EBLINGS
Staff Writer

"This show is dedicated to anyone who has ever loved and lost, and although you know the reasons why, it never seems fair." Stewart Irel, student director of Two and Twenty, speaks passionately about his interpretation of Paul Parentes one-act play which ran Friday and Saturday evenings in the Shoe Box theatre.

The show ran 40 minutes and is a two character drama about a professional writer who struggles internally to fall out of love.

The story takes place in the present with a unique twist. The action exists only in the writer's mind.

The writer Joseph played by Adam S. Birstock, is set on recreating a failed relationship with ex-girlfriend Susan portrayed by Nora Piibe.

Playwright Parente created an intelligent arena which provokes us into his fantasy. In reality all of us would like to get the chance to have a happy ending to an old love affair which has haunted us.

Parente uses dialogue in such a poignant manner we feel a part of the situation he has created.

As voyeurs we are taken through their ups and downs; Susan's flirting; dating his best friend, all of which would annoy even the most patient person.

Joseph then confronts the issue of lack of sex during the latter part of their relationship. Susan coldly turns a deaf ear to his cries for attention as she chooses to fall asleep rather than be bothered.

We feel pity for him and understand his frustration when he tries to rape her without success. Alas, nothing works, not even a gentle backrub, where she only gives him a peck on his cheek. It is clear it has been over for a long time.

The reality we are forced to accept here was nicely punctuated by stage manager Beatriz Flores' solemn lighting and Irel's sparse set.

The black stage framed two lonely stools at center stage, thus creating the illusion of the darkness and isolation of the mind.

Joseph's rambling and complaints about his Susan were framed by the loneliness here.

Surely the material is based on the playwright's past pain. The old joke about the soap opera stars' fear of being "written out" of their show comes to mind as Joseph tries to make his relationship work to no avail.

The author's own pain is felt when the last desperate words of Joseph fade out as the stage goes to black.

Piibe has talent and the naturalness to pull off this demanding and intricate role. Birstock has a dramatic flair which as the play began to unfold seemed forced and rigid. As his final scene ended the stiffness disappeared.

The audience believes his sorrow when Joseph finally accepts the fact he will never be able to mold Susan into the image of his "perfect woman."

It is not until the stage goes black we realise Partene's play is but a metaphor for Joseph's failings.

Joseph recites a piece of poetry by Byron which reveals his romantic point of view. Susan could never have lived up to his expectations and we come to realize his idea of love is one he has read in the great classics.

Director Irel's choice of material deserves a merit. When asked why he chose Two and Twenty Irel said, "I recently had a similar experience in the breakup of a relationship. The choice of the material came more from the fact that I identified with the lead character's profession."

Irel is currently working on a screenplay with a fellow student and hopes to work towards a career in writing and directing for films.

Class Action stirs up emotions

By DANALEE FOWLER
Entertainment Editor

Class Action is a powerful drama about a father and daughter whose only common bond is the disdain they feel for each other.

Gene Hackman and Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonio star as the main protagonists, Jedediah Tucker Ward and his daughter, Margaret Ward.

Jed Ward is a legendary civil liberties lawyer, a brilliant and charismatic man who has dedicated his life to defending underdogs against corporations and the state.

His daughter, Maggie, is an equally brilliant, razor-sharp lawyer whose legal skills have made her the next partner at a prestigious San Francisco corporate law firm.

Hackman plays his part to the hilt. In court, he is totally mesmerizing as he pleads his cases with eloquent intensity.

But Mastrantonio matches him move for move exuding a strength and confidence from Maggie that electrifys the screen when the two find themselves on opposing sides of the same case.

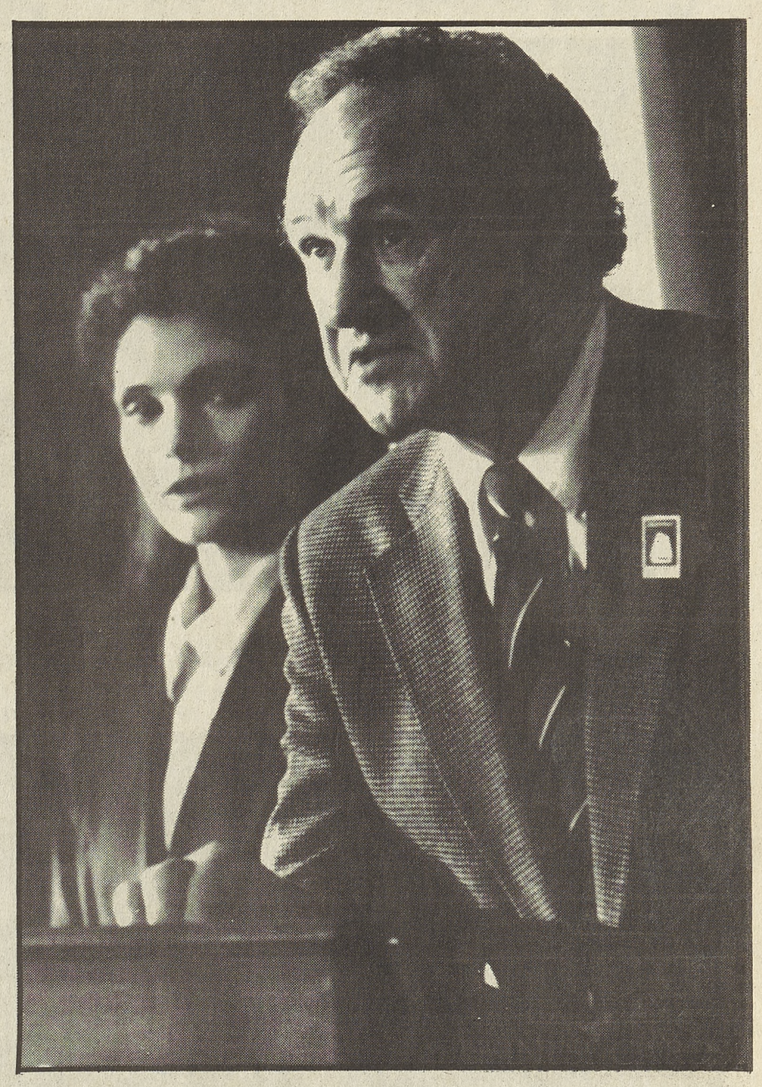
Maggie knows that she is at the top of her game and is eager for her career to catch up with her ability. When she is offered the opportunity to move further up the corporate ladder with a trial dealing with a sleazy company (Argo Motors), she is forced to choose between her father and her future, as Jed intends to be the plantiff in the same trial against her defense.

The only time Jed and Maggie see each other is in the courtroom where the sparks fly.

He is a shoot-from-the-hip litigator with a small coterie of lawyers surrounding him, while Maggie is a part of a big corporate law firm.

Just as it seems that father and daughter are moving apart for good, a horrible, tragic accident takes place bringing them closer together for the moment.

Class Action is very heart-tearing one moment and somewhat humorous the next. Just as you feel you are about to cry something happens and you laugh.



FAMILY TENSION — Gene Hackman and Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonio star as Jedediah Tucker Ward and Margaret Ward, a father and daughter on opposite sides of an explosive lawsuit.

During a particularly tense courtroom scene Judge Symes, played by Matt Clark, tries to lighten the mood by saying "Boy, I sure wouldn't want to be at your house for the holidays."

Class Action's director Micheal Apted says "The movie exists on two levels; a personal story of an adult child making peace with a parent, and a public level with contrasting moralities."

The background music definitely sets the mood throughout the movie, especially Simply Red's "If you don't know me by now." This Twentieth Century Fox movie is an absolute must see.

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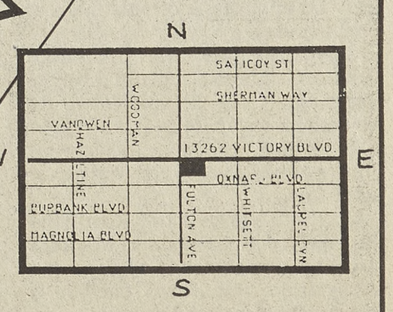
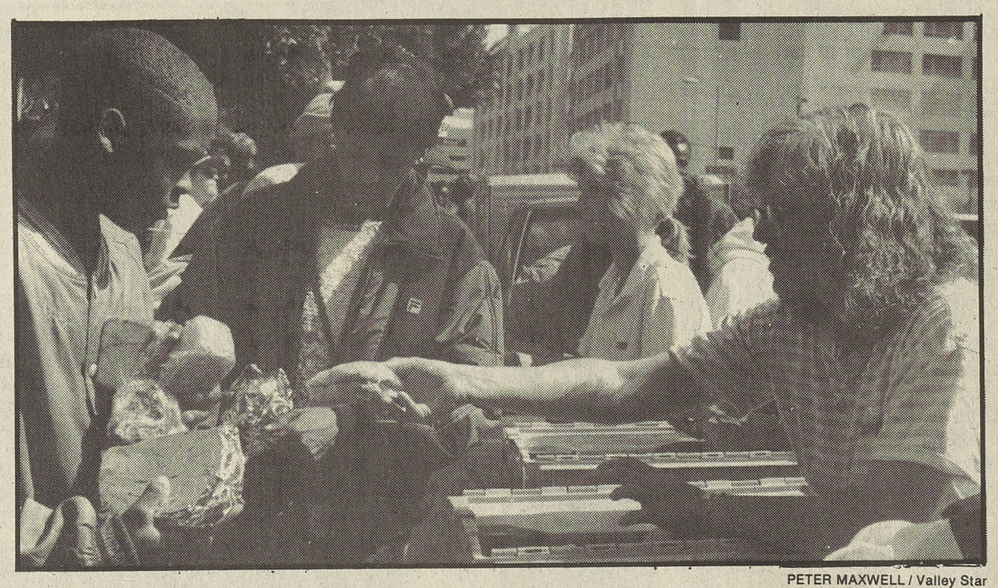


On the *Frontline*...



PETER MAXWELL / Valley Star

GENEROUS — Debbie Novak, a Frontline volunteer, hands out food to a homeless family.

DERICK ION / Valley Star

KEEPING ORDER — Ray Castellani helps guide hundreds of people through the food line.

Surviving on Skid Row

By JESSICA J. CHAVEZ
News Feature Editor

Bobbie Pumphert, best known as "Bubba," can't really express her thoughts with anyone; she is deaf. Throughout the years, several Frontline volunteers have been able to decipher some of her own made upsign language and found that Bubba actions are nothing but love.

"She is so special, she really cares about us (Frontline), like we care about her," said Madonna Catalde, who has been with Frontline for a year and a half and has ever since developed a close relationship with her.

Due to the lack of being able to understand Bubba, little information is known about her other than she is 40 years old, originally from Dallas, Texas and has 3 children; two boys and one girl who she misses very much.

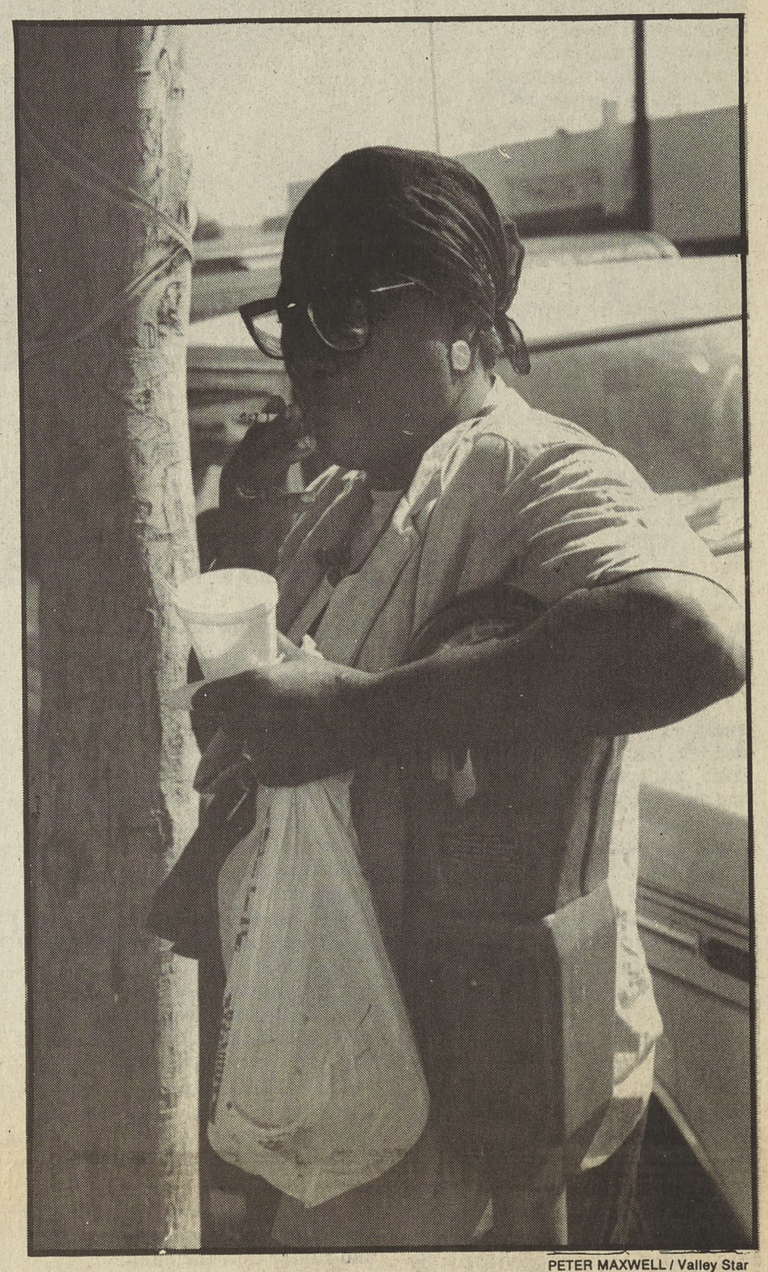
Wher her family is, nobody really knows.

She shares a place with a man also seen on the frontline. In order to pay her rent Bubba earns a living by collecting bottles and cans.

She often presents little 'love notes' to the Frontline volunteers, and always has a little gift for them, usually nail polish or earrings.

Catalde said she was amazed for having received something from this person who basically has nothing. "I feel fortunate for what I have, and I've learned (from Bubba) how not to judge people because the thin line between them and me is so fine, that I could easily be in her shoes.

On the other hand, Catalde feels good that the homeless people are getting some help. "Frontline gives them hope that there is something better," she said.



PETER MAXWELL / Valley Star

RELAXING — Bubba pauses for a cigarette after her meal.

Don't touch Ray ... he's our papa

By JESSICA J. CHAVEZ
News Feature Editor

Perhaps the safest person that can walk in the streets of Skid Row is the man that feeds those that have had the misfortune of ending up in such an area.

Ray Castellani, who was once homeless himself, realized three years ago it was his mission to do something for these people.

Since then, the main focus in his life has been to stop the hunger on Skid Row.

Ray, who gives more than what he really has, probably wouldn't want his name printed or given any recognition. But, Ray Castellani is the driving force of Frontline.

"I am not important; these people of the streets, the Jessys, the Leos, the Lalos...these are the guys that are a reflection of me. Ray is eegh," he said jokingly

Ray calls himself the broke guy, the no-money guy and the guy who had the least amount of money and gave every last cent away.

What has made him unique is the fact that he as been able to accumulate more than 120,000 in cash to serve 200,000 people.

Ray was also homeless when he began to build the organization. But, he says although he knows every feeling the homeless have, that's not the reason he does what he does: "It's my turn... everyone has a turn at something. My turn is that I got to serve food to the hungry in the most heartbreaking area of town, this is it, that's were we are."

"These are human beings and all of them are God's gift and we are all together. Why shouldn't somebody help them?" said Ray.

Not forgetting Skid Row has been notoriously known for its drugs and violance, downtown LA. can be a very dangerous place. Not everyone can go in and be accepted by the homeless.

To establish relations with the homeless, Ray and Noreen Goldner, a former LAVC student, served sandwiches on Wednesday nights hoping to win the homeless people's trust. "Nareen and I tried to let the homeless know that we were not afraid of them, that we are here to give and to share."

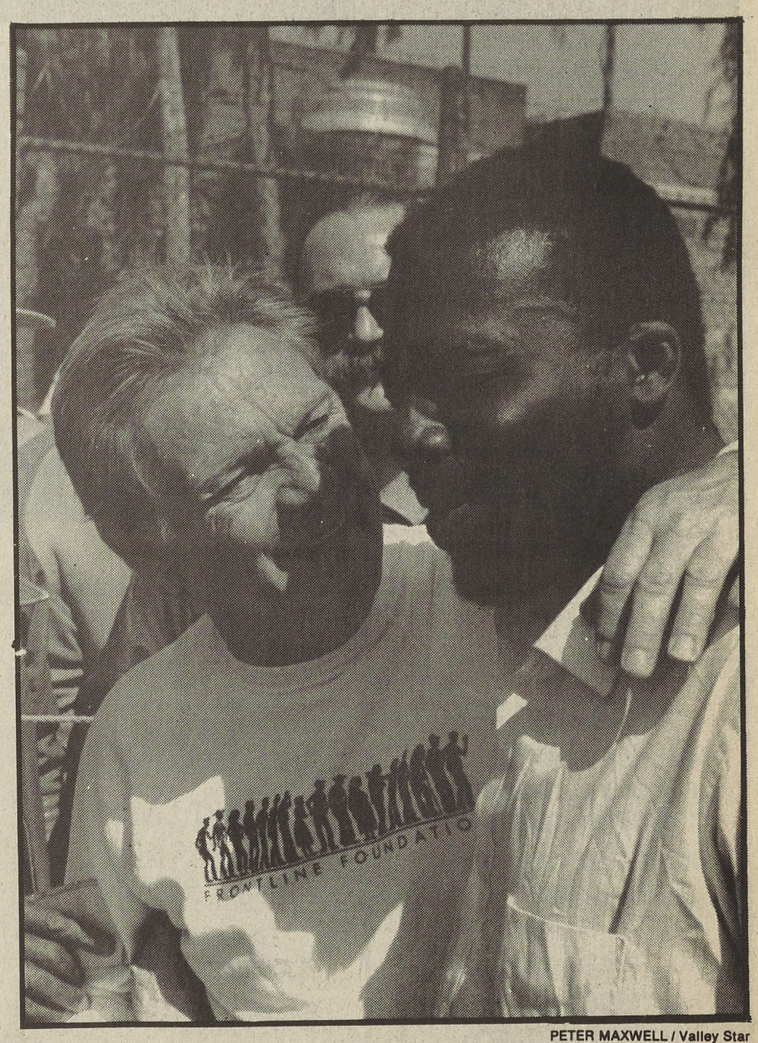
Since December 1987, Ray has not missed a single day in the more than three years of the program's existence.

Today everyone on Skid Row knows who Ray Castellani is and what Frontline means. And they have a tremendous amount of respect for them.

The homeless people feel protected by him enough to open up to Ray and the volunteers and share their personal lives with them.

As a 28-year-old man, who was looking at Ray admiringly, said, "Ray is our Papa, and also our friend who reminds us we have to eat sometimes."

Ray doesn't preach and he doesn't ask questions. He is on a mission to serve humanity.



PETER MAXWELL / Valley Star

CONGRATULATIONS — Frontline's 200,000 meal is served.

News Feature

. . . feeding the hungry

By JESSICA J. CHAVEZ
Opinion Editor

While many students on Spring Break went to Palm Springs, the beach, shopping or lounged around the house all day in their pajamas, a group of dedicated students woke up at 5 a.m. to prepare and distribute food for one of the most poverty stricken areas in LA.; Skid Row.

For LAVC students Steve Alcala, Donna Piluso, Angela Ricci, Tammy McMeekin, Caroline Melton, Nita Valens, Paul Hodge, Cathy Dolen, Alison Carver and other volunteers, feeding the poor is not just an act of humanitarianism, but an act of love.

This exceptional group of students and other volunteers belong to the Frontline Foundation, which is a non-profit organization developed by Ray Castellani, and formed with the hope of minimizing the hunger on Skid Row.

Frontline, for the last three years, has made sure that at least three times per week, the homeless are taken care of, loved and fed.

On the days Frontline goes out, rain or shine, the volunteers come through for the homeless. Between 5 and 9 a.m. about 20 volunteers prepare and load the food into the trucks. By 9:30 they are ready and on their way to Skid Row, namely Fifth and San Pedro, the location where thousands of homeless people wait every week for Ray and his group of volunteers.

PETER MAXWELL / Valley Star

BUSY BEE'S — Volunteers busily prepare sandwiches for distribution later in the morning.

It takes about 2 hours, 20 volunteers, over 1,000 peanut butter and jelly or tuna sandwiches, with over 90 gallons of soup, cocoa, coffee, punch, oatmeal and fruit cocktail for Frontline to feed more than a thousand people.

"The point is not that they are homeless, but that they are hungry and are here [Skid Row], that's what the situation is," said Steve Alcala, "And that's when the Frontline Foundation comes in."

There are no papers to fill out to make them eligible to receive food, no color lines, no group distinctions not any kind of separation.

Starting with a budget of zero, after three years of going to Skid Row, last Saturday Frontline served it's 200,000th meal. It was an overwhelming moment for the homeless and the volunteers.

Almost in disbelief, Ray said it was a significant and fulfilling moment "I feel very beautiful...what a miracle. We started with 111 meals served the first day and now were are up to 200,000 meals."

Aside from those three days, the Frontline Foundation's volunteers go out every day to collect cans of food or pick up "groceries" from regular food donors to stock their small pantry, otherwise Frontline would not be able to feed the homeless the next week.

"Who can't spare a buck and a half for a juice?" said Ed Sheiber, another volunteer. During the week the volunteers do what they can to collect food. He chooses to stand outside super markets and ask people to purchase one extra item for the homeless.

Alcala goes to the different LAVC clubs and organizations asking them for any money they can spare and uses it to purchase non-perishable items. In his last collection, he received enough money for 139 cans.

Alcala also initiated a canned food drive at Valley College. There are trash cans [with a sign asking for canned food donations] in the Library, the Associated Student Union offices in Campus Center 101, and in the Administration building.

It is people like Steve, Ed, Donna and the other volunteers who make Frontline a full-time commitment that enables it to continue operating.

In 1987, Frontline had to work from a smaller facility which wasn't large enough for the work they had to do. Consequently, for a whole year, volunteers had to be up at 3 a.m. to begin the preparation of the food.

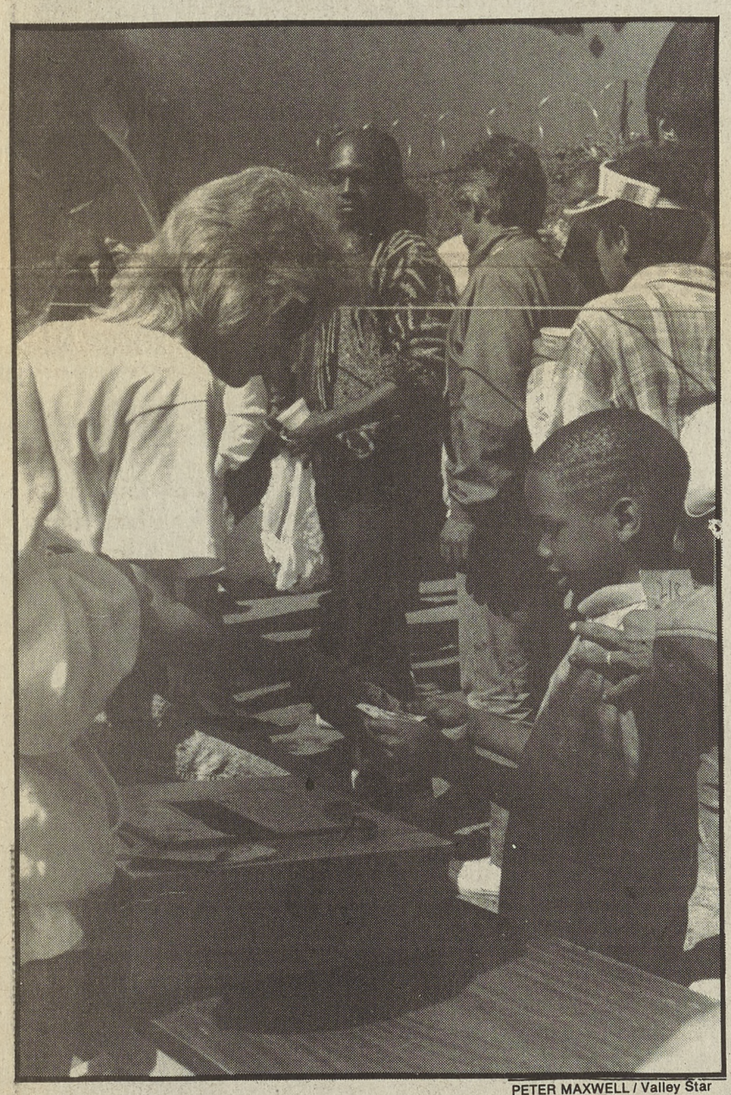
Thanks to the gracious donations of money, time, or labor from different individuals and community businesses, Frontline was able to move to a wherhouse in Van Nuys.

Everything from the kitchenware and electricity in the new warehouse, to one of the trucks they drive up to Skid Row and of course the food, has been donated by members of the community and the much needed and vital work force of the volunteers.

The organization has been around for three years and it keeps on growing. They welcome everyone cheerfully and hope that any newcomers can really commit themselves to this cause.

Ray says it is important to have regular faces help on the frontline because the people on Skid Row could be very sensitive and loose trust in Frontline.

If anyone would like to participate in going downtown with Frontline and would like to share an inestimable amount of shared conversation, love, hurt and sorrow, they are strongly encouraged.
Contact Ray Castellani:
P.O. Box 570303
Tarzana, CA 91357
(818)345-8946



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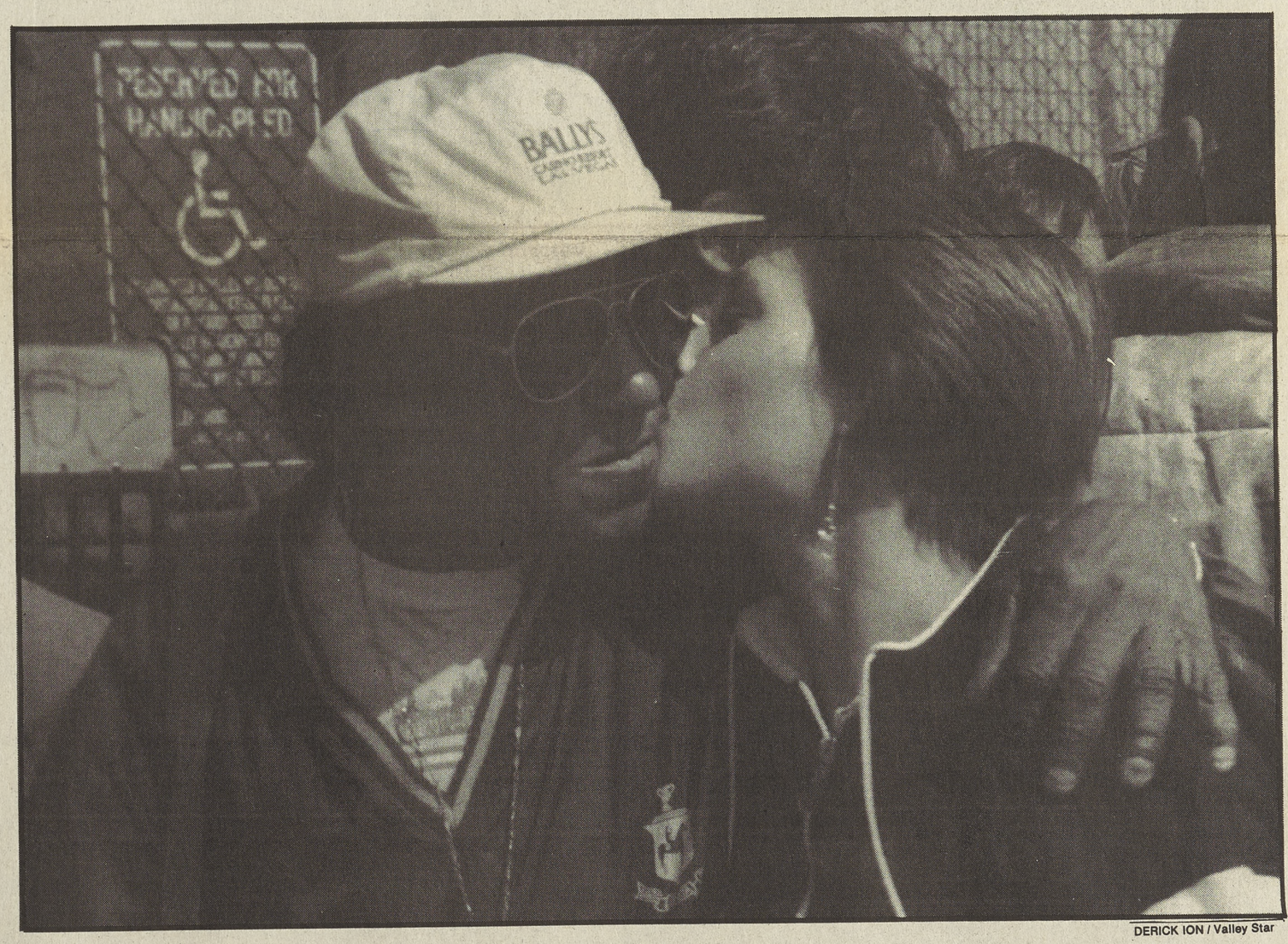
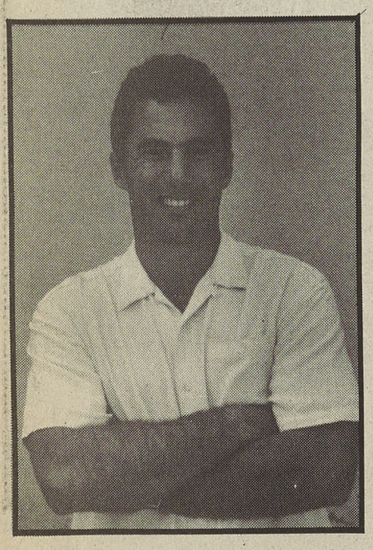
SWEETY — Lisa Mathews hands out a "sweet' to a homeless child.



DERICK ION / Valley Star

WE ARE FAMILY — Lalo and Angela Ricci show their affection toward one another.

Commitment of love



LEN LY / Valley Star

STEVE ALCALA — LAVC student and Frontline volunteer.

By JESSICA J. CHAVEZ
News Feature Editor

Steve Alcala doesn't go to Skid Row just to feed the poor — he goes to visit with his friends.

Alcala, an LAVC student, has been volunteering with Frontline for almost 2 years. At first he says he did it out of commitment, but later it became more of an obsession.

"Now it's more like a commitment by choice. I needed to get involved with Frontline, I felt good about it because it's very simple. People began to rely on me so I kept on going [to Skid Row].

"I wanted to be of service to my fellow man and to others," Alcala said.

He stumbled into the Frontline Foundation through his friend Ed and says since he met Ray and the rest of the people involved on both sides of the frontline, his life has been made more fullfilling.

Alcala feels strong about Frontline because they keep everything simple. Steve is simple too. Their goal: "To irradicate the immediate hunger on the streets."

Though he recognizes that maybe he isn't really solving the problem of why they are homeless, Steve says that regardless, these people are hungry and nobody should have to go through that.

Like the other volunteers, Steve believes more could be done for the homeless.

"There are enough resources out there, but not the desire for people to take action. If more people believe the way we do and act on it, hunger could be wiped out," he said.

Alcala plans on transferring to UCLA during the fall as a Communications Major and plans on obtaining a Master degree in Sociology.

Alcala says his main goal in life is to be of service to other people. "As Martin Luther King once said, 'Life's most persistant and urgent question is what are you doing for others?' "

PETER MAXWELL / Valley Star

WAITING — The line was long but well worth the wait for the hungry of Skid Row.

Monarch ball club tallies another loss

By G.L. MARTINEZ
Staff Writer

The baseball field at College of the Canyons is sometimes known as the "Temple of Boom" due to its tendency to host high-scoring games.

The last two contests between Valley and COC have produced football-like scores. That was not the case last Saturday as pitching stole the show in COC's 5-1 victory over the Monarchs in WSC action.

The pitching display came courtesy of College of the Canyons starter Roland De La Maza. De La Maza (6-3) put on a complete game 10 strikeout performance while scattering five hits and allowing only one earned run.

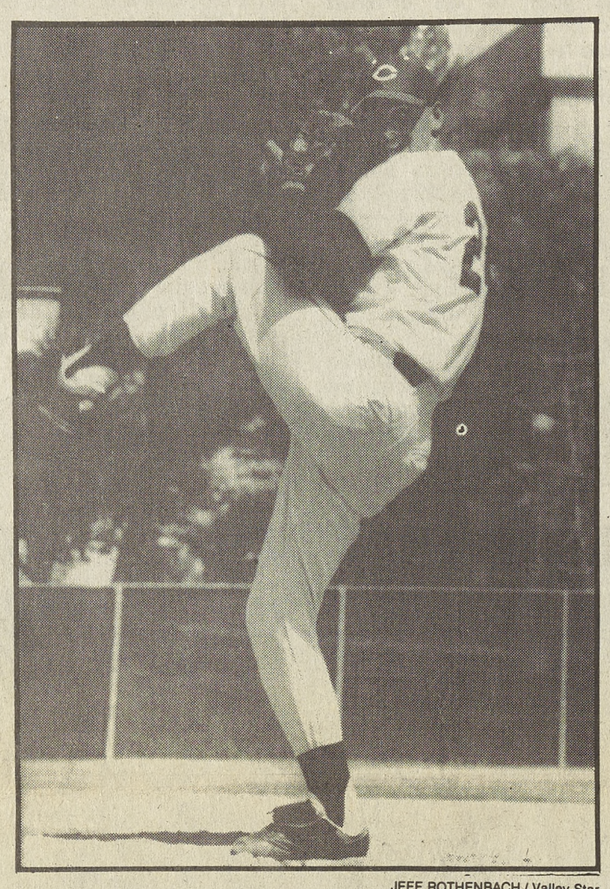
Valley's lone offensive highlight came in the 6th inning when centerfielder Kevin Claytor led off with a single to center. A balk by De La Maza advanced Claytor into scoring position with no outs. Leftfielder Sean Lewis immediately followed with a line drive double to right easily scoring Claytor while bringing the score to 3-1.

That was as close as the Monarchs came all afternoon as they wasted a bases-loaded opportunity in the 8th with a strikeout looking.

Canyons added two more runs in the bottom of the 8th to bring the final margin of victory at 5-1.

The Monarchs have nosed-dived to 7-21-1 on the year while lurking in the WSC cellar with a 4-11 conference record.

The team will travel to Ventura College today for a 2 p.m. game and host Oxnard in a 1 p.m. match-up on Saturday at home.



JEFF ROTHENBACH / Valley Star

REVVING UP — COC pitcher Roland De La Maza.

Monarchs hunt down WSC rivals

By ANNA VILLA
Sports Editor

Hungry for the win, the women's track team has been stalking the competition throughout the state placing themselves high on the "Most Wanted" list.

Led by sophomore Melanie Clark, the Lady Monarchs have clashed with the top teams of the state and have remained undefeated so far according to James Harvey, track coach.

Extending their winning streak into last week's meet at the Bruce Jenner Relays in San Jose, the women stood strong in first and second place positions all around.

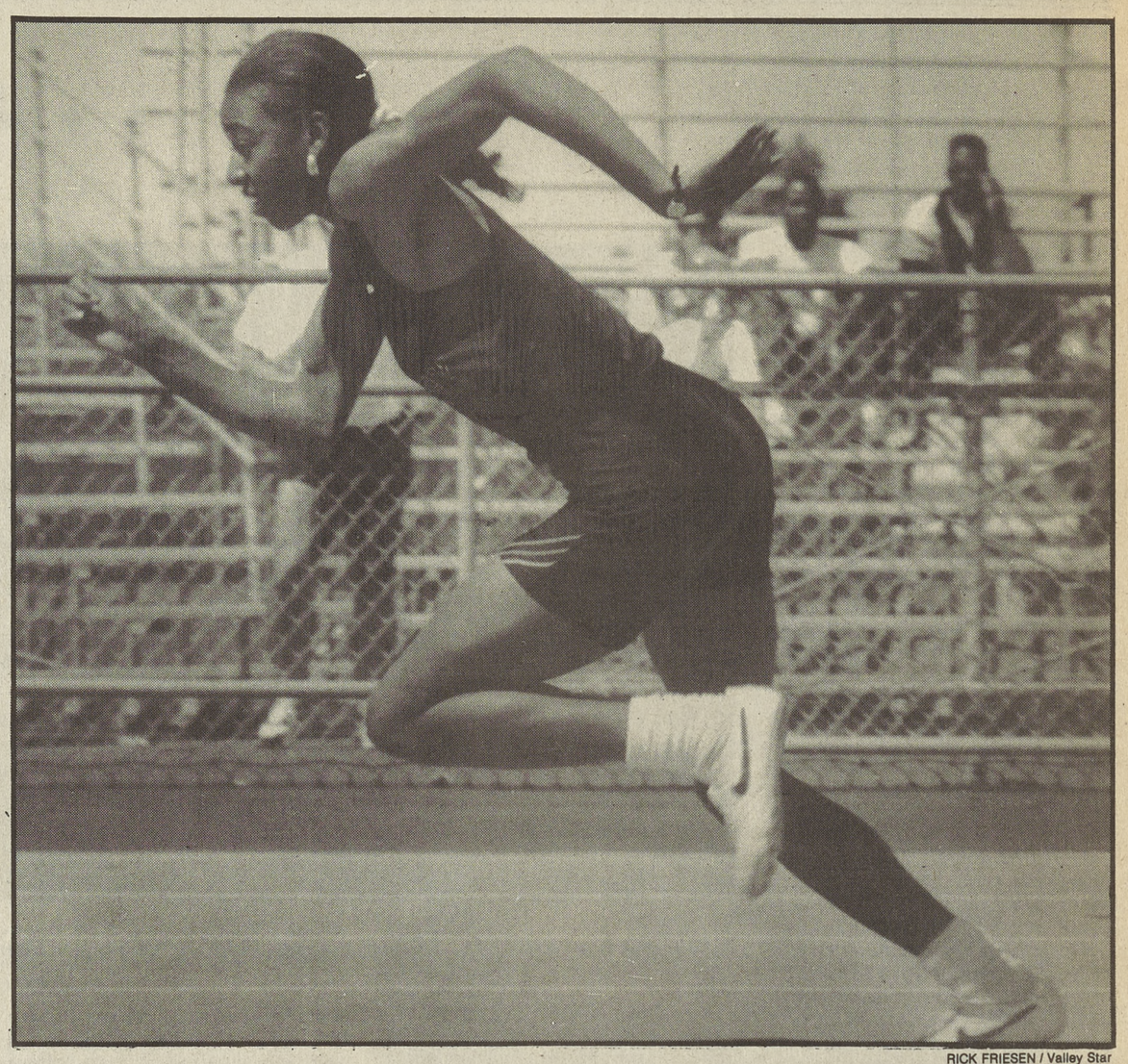
Clark set her lifetime best in the 400m timed as the fastest in the state at 53.04. She also placed first in the 200m (23.06), the long jump (18'1) and the high jump (5'6).

Teammates Shaunte Parker and Pam Martin took first in the 100m (12.06) and the 100m hurdles (15.07) respectively, while Laurie Mertes placed second behind Clark in the high jump (5'4).

The men's team, 4-2 in conference, has not had a spot in the winners circle throughout most of the season and did not find any consolation at San Jose.

"The women are hungrier than the guys," Harvey said. "They want to go out and get people and the guys just want to run, they don't want to win bad enough."

Harvey named Robert Long, Lemarck Allen, Brice Alpough, Marcus Allen and Russel Smith as the core of the men's team and said he hopes the rest of the team will follow suit by next week to do well enough in the prelims.



RICK FRIESEN / Valley Star

CAUGHT IN THE ACT — Melanie Clark in action during the 200m in which she dusted her competitors coming in at 23.06. Clark swept all her other events at the Bruce Jenner Relays in San Jose.

"We'll lose half the team at the prelims, then we'll be down to the real athletes," Harvey said.

The team traveled to Bakersfield for a meet Tuesday which Harvey said would allow them to "bang heads" with other teams and come back to reevaluate themselves. Results were not available at press time.

But after that Harvey said, "everyone's destiny rests in their own hands. I have no control over their performance, it's an individual thing now."

"Take a look at Melanie. She made herself, we just gave her the tools and a roadmap and she took the right course," he said.

"The women can race every team in the state, except for Taft, and win. We've had a pretty good season, we went from being just average to being one of the best in the state, now everyone just wants to beat us, but we'll give them a run for their money," he said.

Santa Barbara will be the site of the WSC prelims on April 23 beginning at 2 p.m.

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